

CLERK: The E & R amendments on 411 were adopted by the body on February 27. I now have a motion offered by Senator Kremer. That amendment is as follows, Mr. President: That we strike the Lamb amendment to LB 411 found on page 860 of the Legislative Journal. That is offered by Senator Kremer.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, you will recall that last week when LB 411 came before us, Senator Lamb placed an amendment on the bill that would have dissolved the ground water conservation districts. I think it passed with a vote of thirty one to seventeen or something like that. Immediately on the adoption of that amendment there was quite a little concern on the part of those that were now a part of the ground water conservancy districts. I was somewhat concerned too. I did vote for the bill. On Saturday of last week I had the occasion to visit with these people and there seemed to be a great deal of concern on their part in that they felt they had a very very important role to play at the present time because of the rather critical situation that has come out of the upper Big Blue Natural Resource District to go under control and to apply rules and regulations. The various members of these Boards of the five counties to which I speak felt that until this so-called crisis was passed that they should remain in operation and not be taken out of the picture and when they explained what their role was as related to the Natural Resource Districts in that they were county wide, they felt that they had a little closer relationship with the people within the county and that it was necessary at the present time to continue their operation. After visiting with them for a matter of two hours I really believe they are right and this is why I laid the motion on the desk that would strike the Lamb amendment. I feel that it is rather important that these various people that represent the ground water conservancy district should play a role in what happens, at least in this Natural Resource District. They seemed to indicate that they were willing, like they had said in years past, that the time would come when they would be willing to come in by petition, and of course that was the purpose of LB 1357 to bring into Nebraska's twenty four natural resource districts all agencies that have been operating in the past dealing with this natural resource. We all understand, of course, they have not come in and there probably are reasons. The President, or the Chairman of the Natural Resource District indicated his desire that they remain in operation, at least for the present. I think if we desire to take them out in some time in the future we can do so at that time. I asked him the question, "Well, why could we not extend the date?" Their answer was, "It is rather discouraging for anyone to assume the role of a Board knowing that this will not be allowed to function very long in the future." and I would have to agree with that. We don't know how long this is going to take to get the rules and regulations that have been proposed by the upper Big Blue to get into operation and bring some type of agreement at least between the people that are involved. So therefore, Mr. Chairman, I would move the striking of the Lamb amendment according to the motion that I have up there.

SPEAKER LUEDTKE: The Chair recognizes Senator Lamb.